News Release from Congresswoman

Nancy Johnson



Fifth District, Connecticut

www.house.gov/nancyjohnson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 16, 2005

Contact: Brian Schubert (202) 225-4476

Johnson Secures Crime-Fighting Funds for Waterbury

Mayor Jarjura: New Gear Will Help "Identify and Eradicate Crime"

WATERBURY, CT – Congresswoman Nancy Johnson announced today she has secured federal funds to support the Waterbury Police Department's crime fighting efforts.

The funds are included in the Justice Department spending bill, which passed the House by a 418-7 vote today. The funds will go to purchase new laptops for police cruisers and technology upgrades, giving Waterbury officers the ability to retrieve critical, up-to-the-minute information while patrolling city neighborhoods.

Johnson worked with Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Frank Wolf (R-VA) to secure the funds. While the final amount will be set later, it could be as much as \$300,000.

"New technologies and equipment will give Waterbury police officers the most effective tools to protect our community," Johnson said. "Waterbury police officers perform their duties with courage and professionalism, and they deserve the most modern equipment and the best information while on patrol. This funding will improve crime-fighting in the city while saving taxpayers money. I thank the police department for its hard work and I commend Mayor Jarjura for his continued leadership on behalf of Waterbury."

Planned upgrades will improve efficiency and reduce maintenance needs, and with the growth of the patrol fleet, more laptops are necessary to outfit all vehicles in the department's fleet, Johnson said.

"I am grateful to Congresswoman Johnson and the U.S. Department of Justice for these essential technology funds," said Waterbury Mayor Michael Jarjura. "This federal funding will ensure that the men and women on the front line in the City of Waterbury have the most up-to-date information at their fingertips. Laptops will be installed in all of the vehicles and hardware will be purchased that will transmit data to help our officers identify and eradicate crime. We have one of the lowest crime rates in the state. This will help to maintain the level of excellence our residents have come to expect."

The Justice Department spending bill awaits approval by the U.S. Senate.